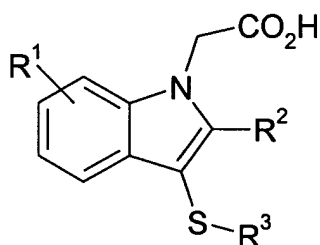


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



(I)

in which

R¹ is hydrogen, halogen, CN, nitro, SO₂R⁴, OH, OR⁴, S(O)_xR⁴, SO₂NR⁵R⁶, CONR⁵R⁶, NR⁵R⁶, aryl (optionally substituted by chlorine or fluorine), C₂-C₆ alkenyl, C₂-C₆ alkynyl or C₁₋₆ alkyl, the latter three groups being optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, OR⁸ and NR⁵R⁶, S(O)_xR⁷ where x is 0, 1 or 2;

R² is hydrogen, halogen, CN, SO₂R⁴ or CONR⁵R⁶, CH₂OH, CH₂OR⁴ or C₁₋₇alkyl, the latter group being optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen atoms, OR⁸ and NR⁵R⁶, S(O)_xR⁷ where x is 0, 1 or 2;

R³ is aryl or heteroaryl each of which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, CN, nitro, OH, SO₂R⁴, OR⁴, SR⁴, SOR⁴, SO₂NR⁵R⁶, CONR⁵R⁶, NR⁵R⁶, NHCOR⁴, NHSO₂R⁴, NHCO₂R⁴, NR⁷SO₂R⁴, NR⁷CO₂R⁴, C₂-C₆ alkenyl, C₂-C₆ alkynyl, C₁₋₆ alkyl, the latter three groups being optionally substituted by one or

more substituents independently selected from halogen atoms, OR^8 and NR^5R^6 , $\text{S(O)}_x\text{R}^7$ where $x = 0, 1$ or 2 ;

R^4 represents aryl, heteroaryl, or C_{1-6} alkyl all of which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen atoms, aryl, heteroaryl, OR^{10} , OH , $\text{NR}^{11}\text{R}^{12}$, $\text{S(O)}_x\text{R}^{13}$ (where $x = 0, 1$ or 2), $\text{CONR}^{14}\text{R}^{15}$, $\text{NR}^{14}\text{COR}^{15}$, $\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^{14}\text{R}^{15}$, $\text{NR}^{14}\text{SO}_2\text{R}^{15}$, CN , nitro;

R^5 and R^6 independently represent a hydrogen atom, a C_{1-6} alkyl group, or an aryl, or a heteroaryl, the latter three of which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from halogen atoms, aryl, OR^8 and $\text{NR}^{14}\text{R}^{15}$, $\text{CONR}^{14}\text{R}^{15}$, $\text{NR}^{14}\text{COR}^{15}$, $\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^{14}\text{R}^{15}$, $\text{NR}^{14}\text{SO}_2\text{R}^{15}$; CN , nitro

or

R^5 and R^6 together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached can form a 3-8 membered saturated heterocyclic ring optionally containing one or more atoms selected from O , S(O)_x where $x = 0, 1$ or 2 , NR^{16} , and itself optionally substituted by C_{1-3} alkyl;

R^7 and R^{13} independently represent a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$, alkyl, an aryl or a heteroaryl group, all of which may be optionally substituted by halogen atoms;

R^8 represents a hydrogen atom, C(O)R^9 , $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl (optionally substituted by halogen atoms or aryl) an aryl or a heteroaryl group (optionally substituted by halogen);

each of R^9 , R^{10} , R^{11} , R^{12} , R^{14} , R^{15} , independently represents a hydrogen atom, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl, an aryl or a heteroaryl group; and

R^{16} is hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, $-\text{COC}_{1-4}$ alkyl, COYC_{1-4} alkyl where Y is O or NR^7 .

each of R^9 , R^{10} , R^{11} , R^{12} , R^{14} , R^{15} , independently represents a hydrogen atom, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl, an aryl or a heteroaryl group (all of which may be optionally substituted by halogen atoms); and

R^{16} is hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, $-\text{COC}_{1-4}$ alkyl, COYC_{1-4} alkyl where Y is O or NR^7 .

In the context of the present specification, unless otherwise indicated, an alkyl or alkenyl group or an alkyl or alkenyl moiety in a substituent group may be linear, branched or cyclic.

2. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 in which R¹ is aryl, hydrogen, methyl, chloro, fluoro, nitrile, nitro, bromo, iodo, SO₂Me, SO₂Et, NR⁴R⁵, SO₂N-alkyl₂.
3. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~ in which R² is C₁₋₆alkyl.
4. (Original) A compound according to claim 3 in which R³ is quinolyl, phenyl or thiazole substituted by one or more fluorine, chlorine, methyl, ethyl, isopropyl, methoxy, SO₂Me, trifluoromethyl or aryl groups.
5. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 selected from:
 - 3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-indol-1-acetic acid;
 - 3-[(2-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)thio]-2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-indol-1-acetic acid;
 - 3-[(3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)thio]-2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-indol-1-acetic acid;
 - 3-[(2-methoxyphenyl)thio]-2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-indol-1-acetic acid;
 - 3-[(3-fluorophenyl)thio]-2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-indol-1-acetic acid;
 - 3-[(4-ethylphenyl)thio]-2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-indol-1-acetic acid;
 - 3-[(2-chlorophenyl)thio]-2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-indol-1-acetic acid;
 - 3-[(2,5-dichlorophenyl)thio]-2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-indol-1-acetic acid;
 - 3-[(4-fluorophenyl)thio]-2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-indol-1-acetic acid;
 - 3-[(4-chloro-2-methylphenyl)thio]-2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-indol-1-acetic acid;
 - 3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-4-cyano-2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
 - 5-chloro-3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-6-cyano-2-methyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
 - 3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-4-(ethylsulfonyl)-7-methoxy-2-methyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
 - 3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-4-[(diethylamino)sulfonyl]-7-methoxy-2-methyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
 - 4-chloro-3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-2-methyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
 - 5-chloro-3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-2-methyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
 - 6-chloro-3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-2-methyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;

7-chloro-3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-2-methyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-2-methyl-5-(methylsulfonyl)-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
2-methyl-3-[(4-methylphenyl)thio]-6-(methylsulfonyl)-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
4-bromo-3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-2-methyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-4-[4-[(1,1-dimethylethoxy)carbonyl]-1-piperazinyl]-2-methyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-2-methyl-4-(1-piperazinyl)-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
5-bromo-3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-2-methyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-2-methyl-5-phenyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-5-cyano-2-methyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
3-[(4-cyanophenyl)thio]-2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-indol-1-acetic acid,
3-[(3-methoxyphenyl)thio]-2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
3-[(4-methoxyphenyl)thio]-2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid,
3-[(3-ethylphenyl)thio]-2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid
2,5-dimethyl-3-[(2-methylphenyl)thio]-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
3-[(3-chlorophenyl)thio]-2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid,
3-[(2-Fluorophenyl)thio]-2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid,
3-[(2,6-Dichlorophenyl)thio]-2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
3-(1*H*-Imidazol-2-ylthio)-2,5-dimethyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid,
2,5-Dimethyl-3-(1*H*-1,2,4-triazol-3-ylthio)-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
2,5-Dimethyl-3-[(4-methyl-4*H*-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio]-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
2,5-Dimethyl-3-[(4-methyl-2-oxazolyl)thio]-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
2,5-Dimethyl-3-[(1-methyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)thio]-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
2,5-Dimethyl-3-[[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]thio]-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid,
2,5-Dimethyl-3-(8-quinolinylthio)- 1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid,
3-[(4-Chlorophenyl)thio]-5-fluoro-2,4-dimethyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
3-[(4-Cyanophenyl)thio]-5-fluoro-2,4-dimethyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
3-[(2-Chlorophenyl)thio]-5-fluoro-2,4-dimethyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
5-Fluoro-3-[(2-methoxyphenyl)thio]-2,4-dimethyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
5-Fluoro-3-[(2-ethylphenyl)thio]-2,4-dimethyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
5-Fluoro-2,4-dimethyl-3-[[2-(1-methylethyl)phenyl]thio]-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
5-fluoro-2,4-dimethyl-3-[[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]thio]-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;

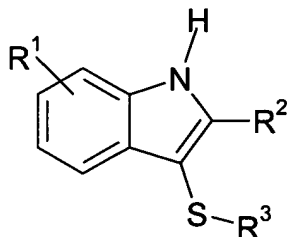
2,5-dimethyl-4-(methylsulfonyl)-3-[(4-phenyl-2-thiazolyl)thio]-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
3-[(3-chlorophenyl)thio]-2,5-dimethyl-4-(methylsulfonyl)-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
3-[(2-chlorophenyl)thio]-2,5-dimethyl-4-(methylsulfonyl)-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-5-(methoxycarbonyl)-2-methyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
5-carboxy-3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-2-methyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-2-methyl-4-nitro-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
4-amino-3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-2-methyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-4-(ethylamino)-2-methyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-4-iodo-2-methyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
3-[(4-chlorophenyl)thio]-2-methyl-4-phenyl-1*H*-indole-1-acetic acid;
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently amended) A method of treating a disease mediated by prostaglandin D₂, which comprises administering to a patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt as defined in ~~claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1.

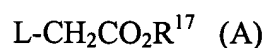
8. (Original) A method of treating according to claim 7 wherein the disease is asthma or rhinitis.

9. (Original) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) which comprises reaction of a compound of formula (II):



(II)

in which R^1 , R^2 and R^3 are as defined in formula (I) or are protected derivatives thereof, with a compound of formula (A):



where R^{17} is an ester forming group and L is a leaving group in the presence of a base, and optionally thereafter in any order:

- removing any protecting group
- hydrolysing the ester group R^{17} to the corresponding acid forming a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.